



NEW YEAR'S EVE

In 2018, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) recorded 285 drunk-driving-related fatalities during the [New Year's Eve holiday period](#). Drunk driving is one of the multiple hazards Hoosiers can face during and after a celebration. This year make a resolution to celebrate the holiday responsibly and safely.

HOSTING A NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATION

Hosting a celebration can be a great way to make sure partygoers stay safe during the holiday. Consider the following tips when planning for a party.

- To help prevent the potential of someone driving while intoxicated, designate someone to collect car keys, and watch them throughout the festivities.
- If serving champagne, bottle corks should be popped away from guests and at a 45-degree angle.
- Provide a large variety of non-alcoholic drinks for underage attendees, designated drivers, non-drinkers and attendees drinking alcohol.
- Consider enforcing a maximum amount of drinks people can consume. Enforcing a limit can help keep everyone safe.
- Provide partygoers the opportunity to stay in a guest bedroom or on couches. This will help keep intoxicated people from attempting to drive.
- Alcohol can be extremely dangerous to pets and children. Keep an eye on them to help prevent the chances of any alcoholic beverages being consumed.

ATTENDING A NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATION

Around 1 million people annually fill Times Square to watch the New Year's Eve Ball Drop indicate the beginning of a [new year](#). Celebrating the holiday with a group of people can be fun, but be aware of potential hazards.

- Attend celebrations with a group of trusted friends and loved ones. Check on one another to promote safety.
- Before attending any festivities, choose a designated driver responsible for driving the group home.
- Check weather notifications and local news stations before leaving home for winter weather updates.
- If traveling, keep a fully-stocked emergency kit in the vehicle at all times. Winter weather can cause hazardous road conditions.
- If someone is attempting to drive while intoxicated, stop them and call a taxi or loved one.
- Never leave drinks alone to prevent the chance of it being drugged.
- Pace alcoholic drinks throughout the night, and consume a glass of water between every drink.
- Share the planned destination with friends and family, and communicate with them throughout the night to help stay safe.
- Carry an extra cell phone charger or a fully-charged power bank to ensure cell phones are available to communicate with loved ones and in an emergency situation.
- If attending the Times Square Ball Drop – or a similar event – leave valuables at home, notify loved ones, wear warm clothing and carry a charged cell phone at all times.
- Consume a large meal before drinking alcohol. This helps reduce hangover symptoms.
- Call law enforcement immediately after seeing someone intoxicated drive away.